IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the below pending claims with the corresponding amended claims, as shown below:

23. (Amended thrice) A solid pharmaceutical composition in a dosage form that is not enteric-coated, comprising: active ingredients consisting essentially of:

(a) a non-enteric coated proton pump inhibitor selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, lansoprazole, rabeprazole, esomeprazole, pantoprazole, pariprazole, and leminoprazole, or an enantiomer, isomer, derivative, free base, or salt thereof, in an amount of approximately 5 mg to approximately 300 mg; and

(b) at least one buffering agent in an amount of approximately 0.1 mEq to approximately 2.5 mEq per mg of proton pump inhibitor provided that the buffering agent is in an amount sufficient to elevate gastric acid pH of the subject's stomach to prevent or inhibit gastric acid degradation of the non-enteric coated proton pump inhibitor and achieve sufficient bioavailability of the proton pump inhibitor in the subject to elicit a therapeutic effect; wherein the dosage form is selected from the group consisting of suspension tablet, chewable tablet, effervescent powder, and effervescent tablet.

2295. (Amended thrice) A method for treating an acid-caused gastrointestinal disorder in a subject in need thereof, comprising: administering to the subject the dosage form of claim 23 via a route selected from the group consisting of oral, nasogastric, and gastric tube.

622. (Amended) A method for treating an acid-caused gastrointestinal disorder in a subject in need thereof, comprising: administering to the subject a solid pharmaceutical composition in a dosage form that is not enteric-coated; wherein the composition comprises active ingredients consisting essentially of:

(a) a therapeutically effective amount of a non-enteric coated proton pump inhibitor selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, lansoprazole, rabeprazole, esomeprazole, pantoprazole, pariprazole, and leminoprazole, or an enantiomer, isomer, derivative, free base, or salt thereof; and

(b) a buffering agent selected from the group consisting of a bicarbonate salt of a group IA metal, a calcium salt, and a magnesium salt, wherein the buffering agent is in an amount sufficient to elevate gastric acid pH of the subject's stomach to prevent or inhibit gastric acid degradation of the non-enteric coated proton pump inhibitor and achieve sufficient bioavailability of the proton pump inhibitor in the subject to elicit a therapeutic effect.

58 ~~679~~. (Amended) The composition as recited in Claim ~~666~~ 57, wherein the buffering agent is sodium bicarbonate.

~~682~~. 61 (Amended twice) The composition as recited in Claim ~~666~~ 57, wherein the buffering agent is calcium carbonate.

91 ~~718~~. (Amended twice) A method for treating an acid-caused gastrointestinal disorder in a subject in need thereof, comprising: administering to the subject the dosage form as recited in Claim ~~666~~ 57 via a route selected from the group consisting of oral, nasogastric, and gastric tube.

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